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Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Population Fund and the United Nations Office for Project Services

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Item 1 of the provisional agenda
Organizational matters

Provisional agenda, annotations, list of documents and workplan

Note by the Executive Board secretariat

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Annotations and list of documents

Item 1
Organizational matters

In accordance with Executive Board decision 2006/14 and rule 7 of the rules of procedure of the Executive Board of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS, the Board will elect a new Bureau consisting of a President and four Vice-Presidents. The election will take place on 8 January 2018. According to the established pattern of rotation of posts among the various regional groups, the President of the Executive Board for 2018 should be elected from the Board members of the African States group.

Under this item, the Executive Board will adopt the agenda and agree on the workplan for the session as presented by the Secretary of the Board. The Board will also approve the report of its second regular and special sessions 2017. Draft reports were distributed to Board members for their comments; the final reports contain comments received by or before the deadline.

In accordance with decision 96/25, a workplan for 2018 was prepared by the secretariat in consultation with the Bureau of the Executive Board and is submitted to the Board for adoption.

Documentation:

Provisional agenda, annotations, list of documents and workplan (DP/2018/L.1)

Report of the second regular session 2017 (DP/2018/1)

Report of the special session 2017 (DP/2018/2)

Decisions adopted by the Executive Board during 2017 (DP/2018/3)

Annual workplan of the Executive Board for 2018 (DP/2018/CRP.1)

UNDP segment

Item 2
Country programmes and related matters

Under this item, the Executive Board will be asked to: (a) review and approve, in accordance with Executive Board decision 2014/7, the country programme documents for Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde (common country programme document), Djibouti, Egypt, Gabon, Ghana, Jordan, Mauritania, Myanmar, Pakistan, and Somalia; and (b) review and approve the regional programme documents for Africa, Arab States, Asia and the Pacific, Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States, and Latin America and the Caribbean.

Documentation:

Africa

Country programme document for Burkina Faso (DP/DCP/BFA/3)

Common country programme document for Cabo Verde (DP/FPA/OPS-ICEF/CCPD/2018/CPV/1)

Country programme document for Gabon (DP/DCP/GAB/3)

Country programme document for Ghana (DP/DCP/GHA/3)

Country programme document for Mauritania (DP/DCP/MRT/3)

Asia and the Pacific

Country programme document for Myanmar (DP/DCP/MMR/2)

Country programme document for Pakistan (DP/DCP/PAK/2)

Arab States

Country programme document for Djibouti (DP/DCP/DJI/3)

Country programme document for Egypt (DP/DCP/EGY/3)

Country programme document for Jordan (DP/DCP/JOR/3)

Country programme document for Somalia (DP/DCP/SOM/3)

Regional programme document for Africa, 2018-2021 (DP/RPD/RBA/3)

Regional programme document for Asia and the Pacific, 2018-2021 (DP/RPD/RAP/3)

Regional programme document for Arab States, 2018-2021 (DP/RPD/RAS/4)

Regional programme document for Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States, 2018-2021 (DP/RPD/REC/4)

Regional programme document for Latin America and the Caribbean, 2018-2021 (DP/RPD/RLA/3)

Item 3
Evaluation

The Independent Evaluation Office is submitting to the Executive Board its four-year workplan, which coincides with the UNDP strategic planning cycle, and responds to several Board decisions on evaluation topics and timing of submissions. The workplan for 2018-2021 sets out UNDP activities in the areas of independent country programme evaluations, corporate evaluations, evaluation capacity and other activities. Of particular note, the IEO has revised its format for evaluating UNDP country programmes and will now evaluate all country programmes prior to their new country programme document submissions to the Board. The rationale for this change and the upcoming schedule of country programme evaluations are described in the present document. The plan provides a series of corporate and thematic evaluations that the IEO intends to implement, and requests suggestions from Member States on additional evaluation topics for the IEO to consider. The plan also elaborates on the continuing efforts of the IEO to improve decentralized evaluation quality and enhance national evaluation capacities.

Documentation:

Independent Evaluation Office workplan, 2018-2021 (DP/2018/4)

Item 4
United Nations Capital Development Fund

In its decision 2017/13, the Executive Board welcomed the steps taken to prepare the UNCDF Strategic Framework, 2018- 2021, in a consultative manner with the Board.

UNCDF's aim under the new Strategic Framework is to support the achievement of Sustainable Development Goals 1 and 17 in least developed countries (LDCs) by making finance work for inclusion, in close collaboration with UNDP and other United Nations partners. UNCDF will do this by building on its years of experience in expanding inclusive financial markets and local development finance systems that help unlock public and private finance at the local level. The Strategic Framework articulates how UNCDF will strengthen its lending and guarantee instruments alongside its grants and technical assistance, and presents the role of the LDC investment platform in making blended finance approaches available to a wider range of partners. The document also presents four results-to-resources scenarios, providing Member States the means to recommit to supporting UNCDF to achieve the ideal scenario and to fully funding regular resource requirements of $25 million per year. The Board may wish to take note of the UNCDF Strategic Framework, 2018-2021.

Documentation:

UNCDF Strategic Framework, 2018-2021 (DP/2018/5)

Item 5
United Nations Volunteers

Under this item, the Executive Board will have before it the UNV Strategic Framework, 2018-2021, which builds on the previous framework and Executive Board decision 2014/6, in which the Board "commend[ed] UNV for the successful development and launch of its strategic framework... 2014-2017". As the first strategic framework of UNV since the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, it seeks to leverage the power of volunteerism and volunteers as a means of implementation and people engagement in the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals. To this end, the Strategic Framework focuses on two main outcomes and on institutional effectiveness, as described in the present document. The Board may wish to take note of the UNV Strategic Framework, 2018-2021.

Documentation:

UNV Strategic Framework, 2018-2021 (DP/2018/6)

UNFPA segment

Item 6
Country programmes and related matters

The Executive Board will be asked to: (a) approve, in accordance with decision 2014/7, the country programme documents for Central African Republic, Djibouti, Egypt, Ghana, Jordan, Mauritania and the common country programme document for Cabo Verde.

Documentation:

Country programme document for Central African Republic (DP/FPA/CPD/CAF/8)

Country programme document for Djibouti (DP/FPA/CPD/DJI/5)

Country programme document for Egypt (DP/FPA/CPD/EGY/10)

Country programme document for Ghana (DP/FPA/CPD/GHA/7)

Country programme document for Jordan (DP/FPA/CPD/JOR/9)

Country programme document for Mauritania (DP/FPA/CPD/MRT/8)

Common Country programme document for Cabo Verde (DP/FPA/OPS-ICEF/CCPD/2018/CPV/1)

Item 7
Evaluation

The quadrennial budgeted evaluation plan for 2018-2021 has been prepared in line with the revised evaluation policy of UNFPA (DP/FPA/2013/5), and in accordance with relevant Executive Board decisions and General Assembly resolution 71/243 on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system.

The plan presents the strategic approach to evaluation planning and details proposed corporate and decentralized programme-level evaluations for UNFPA, together with information on budget, key risks and reporting arrangements.

The Executive Board may wish to adopt a decision approving the quadrennial budgeted evaluation plan, 2018-2021.

The Executive Board will also have before it a formative evaluation of the UNFPA innovation initiative, as well as a management response to this report. The evaluation is designed to provide an evidence-based, consultative formative assessment of the UNFPA innovation initiative to inform the implementation of the first phase of the initiative, the design of the second phase and the development of the strategic plan, 2018-2021.

The Executive Board may wish to take note of the formative evaluation.

Documentation:

Quadrennial budgeted evaluation plan, 2018-2021 (DP/FPA/2018/1);

Formative evaluation of the UNFPA innovation initiative (DP/FPA/2018/CRP.1);

Management response to the formative evaluation of the UNFPA innovation initiative (DP/FPA/2018/CRP.2)

UNOPS segment

Item 8
United Nations Office for Project Services

The Executive Director of UNOPS will deliver her statement to the Executive Board. She will provide an update on the implementation of the organization's Strategic Plan, 2018-2021, as well as a summary of key focus areas in the coming year.

Joint segment

Item 9
Recommendations of the Board of Auditors

The UNDP and UNCDF report on the implementation of the recommendations of the United Nations Board of Auditors for 2016 reviews the progress made on the top seven audit-related management priorities for 2016-2017 (as presented in document DP/2017/11 and supported by the Board in its decision 2017/5) and reports on the implementation status of the recommendations of the United Nations Board of Auditors for the year ended December 2016 and prior years. Pursuant to Executive Board decision 2010/9, details of the implementation status of the audit recommendations and the full audit report of the United Nations Board of Auditors for UNDP and UNCDF (A/72/5/Add.1 and Add.2, respectively) are available on the Executive Board website.

Pursuant to decision 97/2 of the Executive Board, the Executive Director of UNFPA reports on the implementation of the recommendations contained in the report of the United Nations Board of Auditors for the financial period that ended on 31 December 2016 (A/72/5/Add.8).

The United Nations Board of Auditors acknowledges that UNFPA is in good financial health and provides the opinion that the organization's financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of UNFPA as at 31 December 2016 and its financial performance and cash flows for the year then ended, in accordance with IPSAS. A separate table, available on the UNFPA website, provides an updated status of the implementation of the audit recommendations.

UNOPS is pleased to respond to the recommendations made in the report of the Board of Auditors (A/72/5/Add.11) and to provide an update on the current status of implementation. The report of the Board of Auditors for the year ended 31 December 2016 was unqualified. UNOPS management continues to emphasize the importance of addressing audit concerns, to which the present document testifies by highlighting the current status and management plan for the audit recommendations yet to be implemented.

The Executive Board may wish to adopt a decision on the reports of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS on the implementation of the recommendations of the United Nations Board of Auditors for 2016.

Documentation:

UNDP and UNCDF: Report on the implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors, 2016 (DP/2018/7)

UNFPA: Follow-up to the report of the United Nations Board of Auditors for 2016: the status of implementation of the recommendations (DP/FPA/2018/2)

UNOPS: Report on the implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors for 2016 (DP/OPS/2018/1)

Item 10
Other matters

TENTATIVE WORKPLAN
EXECUTIVE BOARD OF UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS
FIRST REGULAR SESSION 2018
(8 and 22 - 26 January 2018, New York)

Day/Date	*Time*	*Item*	*Subject*
Monday, 8 January	10 – 11 a.m.		Election of the Bureau of the Executive Board for 2018
Monday, 22 January	10 a.m.– 1 p.m.	1	ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS • Adoption of the agenda and workplan for the session • Adoption of the reports of the second regular and special sessions 2017 • Adoption of the annual workplan 2018 of the Executive Board **UNDP SEGMENT** STATEMENT BY THE ADMINISTRATOR
	3 – 5:30 p.m.		STATEMENT BY THE ADMINISTRATOR (cont'd)
	5:30 - 6 p.m.		*Informal consultations on draft decisions*
Tuesday, 23 January	10 a.m.– 1 p.m.	2	COUNTRY PROGRAMMES AND RELATED MATTERS • Regional programme documents for Africa, Asia and the Pacific, Arab States, Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States, Latin America and the Caribbean for the period 2018-2021
	3– 5:30 p.m.	2	COUNTRY PROGRAMMES AND RELATED MATTERS • Presentation and approval of country programme documents
	5:30 – 6 p.m.		*Informal consultations on draft decisions*
Wednesday, 24 January	10 a.m.– 1 p.m.	3	EVALUATION • Independent Evaluation Office workplan (2018-2021) • Quality assessment of decentralized evaluations
		4	UNITED NATIONS CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT FUND • UNCDF strategic framework, 2018-2021
	3 – 5:30 p.m.	5	UNITED NATIONS VOLUNTEERS • UNV strategic framework, 2018-2021
	5:30 – 6 p.m.		*Informal consultations on draft decisions*
Thursday, 25 January	10 a.m.–1 p.m.		**UNFPA SEGMENT** STATEMENT BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
	3 – 5:45 p.m.	6	STATEMENT BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR (cont'd) COUNTRY PROGRAMMES AND RELATED MATTERS • Presentation and approval of country programme document • Extensions of country programmes
	5:45 - 6 p.m.		*Informal consultations on draft decisions*

Day/Date	*Time*	*Item*	*Subject*
Friday, 26 January	10 – 11:30 a.m.	8	**UNOPS SEGMENT** STATEMENT BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
	11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.	7	**UNFPA SEGMENT (cont'd)** EVALUATION • Evaluation on UNFPA innovation • Quadrennial budgeted evaluation plan
	3 p.m.	9	**JOINT SEGMENT** RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE BOARD OF AUDITORS • Reports of UNDP and UNOPS on the status of implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors for 2016 • UNFPA report on the follow-up to the report of the United Nations Board of Auditors for 2016: Status of implementation of recommendations
		10	OTHER MATTERS • Adoption of pending decisions
		1	ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS Adoption of the tentative workplan for the annual session 2018